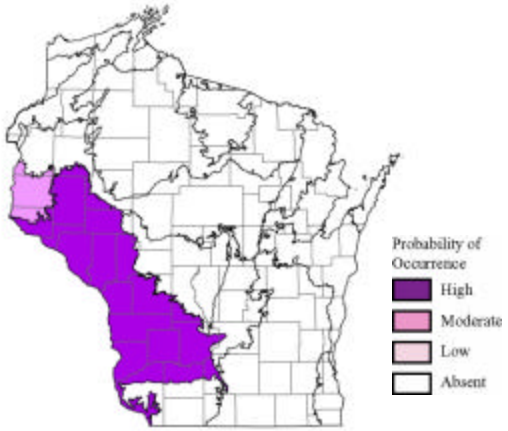
Blue Sucker (*Cycleptus elongatus*)

Species Assessment Scores*

State rarity:	3
State threats:	4
State population trend:	NA
Global abundance:	4
Global distribution:	5
Global threats:	4
Global population trend:	4
Mean Risk Score:	4**
Area of importance:	5

* Please see the Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries (Section 3.1.1) for definitions of criteria and scores.
** Based on fewer than the standard 7 criteria.



Ecological Landscape Associations
Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

Landscape -community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Western Coulee and Ridges	Warmwater rivers
Western Prairie	Warmwater rivers

Threats and Issues

- Dams fragment large river habitat for this species, blocking upstream spawning migrations and consequently limiting distribution on tributaries of the Mississippi to the reaches below the dams.
- Impoundments on the Mississippi River and the lower reaches of its largest tributaries, where the species is found in Wisconsin, also destroy or reduce riffle habitats which the species needs for spawning.
- Basic ecological information about this species is lacking, inhibiting effective conservation and management efforts.
- This species is intolerant of pollution, turbidity and sedimentation of the large river systems that it inhabits.
- Alteration of the Mississippi River for commercial navigation (e.g., dredging, lock and dam structures) threatens this species through habitat fragmentation and degradation.

Priority Conservation Actions

- Preserve and restore large river habitat, including protection of riffle areas where the species spawns and construction of fishways around dams to allow passage of migrating fish.
- Sources of pollution discharge and soil runoff within its range should be monitored and minimized.
- Control of point and non-point pollution is needed in the Mississippi drainage basin.
- More information on status, habitat use, and movement patterns, especially of juveniles, is needed to more effectively conserve and manage this species.